



PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES June 19, 2014

I. CALL TO ORDER –

Supervisor Ken Fletcher called the meeting to order at 4:14 p.m.

Members Present: Supervisor Ken Fletcher and Clerk Mary Clark

Member Absent: Trustee Karen Mojica

Guest Present: Sheriff Tom Reich

Staff Present: Township Manager Richard Watkins and Captain Ken VanHall

Staff Absent: Deputy Township Manager Jen Roberts, Chief John Clark, and Finance Director Jeff Anderson

II. PUBLIC COMMENT –

A motion was made by Ken Fletcher to excuse Trustee Karen Mojica. Mary Clark seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried.

III. SET/ADJUST AGENDA –

Motion made by Mary Clark to approve the agenda as presented. Ken Fletcher seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried.

IV. SET/ADJUST MAY 15, 2014 MINUTES –

Motion made by Mary Clark to approve the May 15, 2014 minutes as presented. Ken Fletcher seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried.

V. DELTA PATROL REPORT, Lt. Jeff Campbell -

a. Fireworks Update –

Lt. Jeff Campbell stated there was not a lot to report on since the last meeting. He provided the following information with regard to the fireworks event:

- He has three troopers from Michigan State Police (MSP), and one Grand Ledge Officer that he has been added to the numbers overall
- East Lansing, Grand Ledge, Eaton Rapids, Charlotte and MSP are pretty much ready to go.
- Lansing Police Department is providing a Crime Analyst for the night to watch social media.

- A press release went out yesterday, and another one will be sent out with parking updates, and where we stand with regard to parking passes, which will probably go out the day before the fireworks.
- He did an interview with Channel 10 yesterday, which he did not see aired.

b. COPS Grant Application Update -

Lt. Jeff Campbell stated that he spent the better part of the day today inputting information on the COPS website, but it kept going down. He is a little concerned, as the application has to be completed by Monday, June 30th.

c. Discussion on Complaint Received by the Township Regarding the Delta Patrol –

Ken Fletcher asked for an update on the Howard Spence complaint. Sheriff Tom Reich stated “the Undersheriff met with Howard the other day. He responded to Gina Bell with a very positive email. Here are some additional things he wants: He assured me that he is not the complainant, he has not filed a complaint on her behalf, or representing her in any shape or form. Sheriff Reich asked the Committee if they were aware that Sergeant Morris did hand the lady, the night of the so called traffic stop, a complaint form to fill out if she wanted to. She replied that she wasn’t a part of anything. They kind of put themselves in this predicament of having a felony stop put on them. That is protocol. We do take these things seriously. Howard did say a couple of other things in there that are not appreciated. Some things I have not heard our Delta Patrol or any other police officers in this area of doing a DWB. This is the first I’ve heard of it, we don’t practice that at the Sheriff’s office, but we do take it seriously. Even though there is no complaint being filed we are still going to look into it.”

Sheriff Reich then stated that he has made Howard Spence aware that what he did is not appreciated, and that we do not handle things this way at the Sheriff’s office. Howard Spence should have brought this to his attention first for investigation, and it should not have been sent out to everybody. Howard said it would not happen again.

Ken Fletcher asked Sheriff Reich to walk the Committee through exactly what happened that day.

Lt. Campbell provided step by step details of what occurred the day of the alleged assault, which occurred on April 14th, and the findings of his investigation into the event up until the complaint was received by Howard Spence.

A discussion on burden of proof and neighborhood watch programs followed Lt. Campbell’s description of the occurrence.

Ken Fletcher suggested that if a group of pastors were worked up about this, that we should sit down with the group of pastors and present them with the facts and the information, and take Howard Spence out of the middle man role.

Sheriff Reich then stated that he did offer to meet with the three ladies and the pastors, so we shall see how that goes.

A discussion followed, which included the following items:

- How to squash misinformation when an event occurs
- Diversification
- Difficulty in finding qualified applicants in law enforcement
- General lack of interest for people to go into law enforcement
- Lack of commitment to a job due to income and pensions

Ken Fletcher asked that the Sheriff's department to keep the Committee informed of what transpires.

VI. DELTA FIRE REPORT, Chief John Clark –

Ken Fletcher asked Captain Ken VanHall if he was here to report on Chief's behalf during his absence. Captain VanHall responded that he was not, and that he was unaware of Chief Clark's whereabouts.

Ken Fletcher then stated that since Chief Clark is not here, we will put these items on hold until the next meeting:

- a. **Burning Ordinance**
- b. **Emergency Services Ordinance**
- c. **False Alarms Ordinance**
- d. **HazMat & Emergency Services Fee Schedule**

VII. ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

Mary Clark reported that the Township now has two fireworks tent permit applications in process. She notified the committee that the Township is declining one of their workers due to their background check, which the business assured her the person would not be working their tent. She is going to forward the information on this worker to Lt. Campbell, so that he is aware of who it is.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Supervisor Fletcher adjourned the meeting at 4:44 p.m.